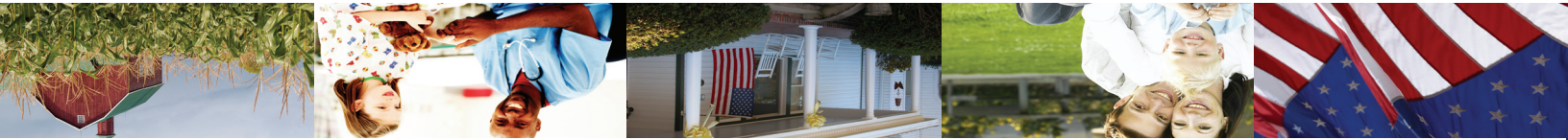


RESULTS & ACCOUNTABILITY Your Year-End Report



Winter 2005

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with soybean-based ink.



This mailing was prepared, published
and mailed at taxpayer expense.

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry
Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515



PRESORTED STANDARD

MC



Dear Neighbors,

It is an extraordinary privilege to represent you in Congress. It is my sincere hope that our work this year has strengthened the nation, our communities, and Nebraska families.

Working with a number of my colleagues, I focused on many important issues facing our country including national security, economic opportunity and small business entrepreneurship, energy and environmental policy, and affordable healthcare. Farming, rural communities, and strengthening family life and culture were at the center of our work.

Your views are important to our efforts in Washington. Inside you will find a legislative overview.

Please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

*Congressman
Fortenberry regularly
discusses family and
farming issues (Roca).*



The Fort Report ▼

For the latest news from Washington and the First District, subscribe to **The Fort Report**. You may find this electronic newsletter on my website at **fortenberry.house.gov**. Click on **E-mail Updates**. Your Fort Report also includes periodic e-mail updates on issues of importance to you.

Washington Responsibilities ▼

House Agriculture Committee

- Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Rural Development and Research
- Subcommittee on Operations, Oversight, Dairy, Nutrition and Forestry
- Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management

House Small Business Committee

- Subcommittee on Rural Enterprises, Agriculture and Technology
- Subcommittee on Tax, Finance and Exports

House International Relations Committee

- Subcommittee on Middle East and Central Asia
- Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations

Additional Assignments

- Appointed to House Democracy Assistance Commission
- Appointed to the Saving America's Cities Working Group
- 2006 Honorary Chairman of the Nebraska Society of Washington, DC
- 2006 Chairman of the Nebraska Breakfast

Stay Connected ▼

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Left photo: Congressman Fortenberry talks to Cardinal Farms owners about farm diversification near Dakota City.

Right photo: Congressman Fortenberry visits Nebraska troops in Fallujah during a trip to Iraq.



Left photo: Congressman Fortenberry listens to students in Prague talk about educational opportunities.

Right photo: Congressman Fortenberry listens to Nebraska seniors at a recent Medicare forum in Wisner.

District Highlights ▼

Serving Nebraskans

Throughout the year, my office assisted thousands of Nebraskans by answering questions, finding solutions, and cutting through red tape at various federal agencies. If you need such assistance, please contact us in Lincoln, Fremont, or Washington, D.C.

Agriculture

As a member of the House Committee on Agriculture, I worked on a vast array of issues affecting farming and rural communities including ag-based energy production, trade, regulatory relief, and rural development. I also introduced legislation to strengthen enforcement of current farm payment limitations regulations. Fixing abuses and loopholes in the current payment system will benefit Nebraska's farm families and rural communities.

Small Business

Small business entrepreneurship creates the vast majority of new jobs in America. One of the challenges for Nebraska small business is ever increasing health insurance costs. To address this firsthand, I invited the House Committee on Small Business to Lincoln for a hearing on the issue. With hundreds of Nebraskans in attendance, we held one of the Committee's largest and most successful hearings.

Seniors' Healthcare

In 2003, Congress passed the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Act to help seniors lower their prescription drug costs. Recognizing the complexities of this program, my office hosted more than 20 Medicare forums in 17 counties. Each forum featured Medicare experts who answered questions and provided key information to approximately 2,500 Nebraska seniors.

HOW I VOTED...AND WHY...

FOR Children's Safety ✓

The *Children's Safety Act* (H.R. 3132) offers greater safeguards against sexual predators and improves the effectiveness of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Program.

FOR Supporting Our Troops ✓

The *Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act* (H.R. 1268) gives U.S. troops the equipment they need to defend our country and combat terrorism.

AGAINST Immediately Withdrawing our Troops from Iraq ✗

America has made a commitment to stabilize Iraq, diminish the prospects of terrorism, and promote the long-term security of the entire Middle East. The House overwhelmingly reaffirmed its commitment by rejecting a resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq (H.Res. 571).

FOR Tax Relief ✓

The *Tax Relief Act* (H.R. 4297) prevents tax increases for numerous Americans. The bill retains deductions for certain teacher and higher education expenses, continues small business expensing, and extends the reduction of capital gains taxes to sustain economic growth. I also voted to help protect millions of middle-class Americans facing Alternative Minimum Tax increases (H.R. 4096) and to permanently repeal the death tax (H.R. 8).

FOR Renewable Energy Sources ✓

The *Energy Policy Act* (H.R. 6) helps establish a long-term supply of safe and secure energy. The bill sets a course toward greater conservation and efficiency, improves environmental stewardship, decreases our reliance on foreign energy sources, and encourages further development of renewable fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel – an exciting use of Nebraska farm products.

FOR Immigration Reform ✓

Uncontrolled borders present a serious national security threat that undermines legitimate and appropriate immigration policies. The *Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act* (H.R. 4437) establishes increased border security and mandates that employers verify a person's immigration status. The bill also increases penalties for smuggling illegal aliens into the country and for individuals who illegally re-enter the country.

FOR Smart Trade ✓

The *Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement* (DR-CAFTA, H.R. 3045) provides immediate duty-free access for more than half of current U.S. farm exports to Central America and the Dominican Republic – including high-quality cuts of beef, soybeans, and processed food products. This agreement will help U.S. consumers and agricultural producers as well as promote economic reform in Central America.

FOR Efficient Transportation ✓

The *Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users* (H.R. 3) makes a significant investment in the nation's transportation infrastructure. The bill addresses important safety, economic development, and traffic congestion problems. It also provides funding for many important Nebraska projects including Highway 35 in northeast Nebraska and Antelope Valley in Lincoln.

FOR U.N. Accountability ✓

The *United Nations Reform Act* (H.R. 2745) calls on the U.N. to enact significant reform measures to restore public trust and confidence. I was pleased to successfully amend the bill to require that the U.N. hold countries accountable for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity.

FOR Ethical Research to Fight Disease ✓

The *Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act* (H.R. 2520) provides funds for the collection and maintenance of human umbilical cord blood stem cells for research and the treatment of patients. Today, these cells are being used to successfully treat a variety of diseases.

AGAINST Embryonic Stem Cell Research ✗

The *Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act* (H.R. 810) allows federal funding for the destruction of human embryos. This raises ethical concerns. Umbilical cord blood stem cell research shows great promise to treat and cure diseases. I support stem cell research that affirms human life in all of its stages.